IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier version and listings.

1. (currently amended): An image processing apparatus, comprising:

a converter, arranged to color-convert input image data using a three-dimensional table selected from a plurality of three-dimensional tables and an interpolation process;

a first calculator, arranged to obtain error-corrected data by adding error data to the color-converted image data;

an output section, arranged to select a dot pattern from a combination of dot patterns selected from a plurality of combinations of dot patterns based on the error-corrected data, and output the selected dot pattern as an output dot pattern;

an obtaining section, arranged to obtain data, which indicates an output color corresponding to the output dot pattern, by referring to an output density table; and

a second calculator, arranged to obtain the error data by calculating a difference between the data which indicates the output color, and the color-converted image data.

wherein the plurality of three-dimensional tables include three-dimensional tables in correspondence with ~~a color appearance of an image to be printed by the dot pattern~~ the output color.

2. (currently amended): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ each dot pattern expresses a combination of color dots.

3. (currently amended): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said output section selects the combination of dot patterns in correspondence with a print medium on which the output ~~dot pattern~~ color is printed.

4. (currently amended): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of three-dimensional tables include a three-dimensional table having a conversion characteristic that increases contrast of ~~the~~ a middle luminance.

5. (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of three-dimensional tables include a three-dimensional table having a conversion characteristic that increases a saturation of a specific hue.

6. (currently amended): An image processing method comprising the steps of:

color-converting input image data using a three-dimensional table selected from a plurality of three-dimensional tables and an interpolation process;

obtaining error-corrected data by adding error data to the color-converted image data;

selecting a dot pattern from a combination of dot patterns selected from a plurality of combinations of dot patterns based on the error-corrected data, and outputting the selected dot pattern as an output dot pattern;

obtaining data, which indicates an output color corresponding to the output dot pattern, by referring to an output density table; and

obtaining the error data by calculating a difference between ~~a~~ the data which indicates the output color, and the color-converted image data,

wherein the plurality of three-dimensional tables include three-dimensional tables in correspondence with ~~a color appearance of an image to be printed by the dot pattern~~ the output color.

7. (currently amended): The method according to claim 6, wherein ~~the~~ each dot pattern expresses a combination of color dots.

8. (currently amended): The method according to claim 6, wherein the combination of dot patterns is selected in correspondence with a print medium on which the output ~~dot pattern~~ color is printed.

9. (currently amended): The method according to claim 6, wherein the plurality of three-dimensional tables include a three-dimensional table having a conversion characteristic that increases contrast of ~~the~~ a middle luminance.

10. (previously presented): The method according to claim 6, wherein the plurality of three-dimensional tables include a three-dimensional table having a conversion characteristic that increases a saturation of a specific hue.

11. (currently amended): A computer readable medium storing a computer-executable program comprising program code for causing a computer to perform an image processing method, the method comprising the steps of:

color-converting input image data using a three-dimensional table selected from a plurality of three-dimensional tables and an interpolation process;

obtaining error-corrected data by adding error data to the color-converted image data;

selecting a dot pattern from a combination of dot patterns selected from a plurality of combinations of dot patterns based on the error-corrected data, and outputting the selected dot pattern as an output dot pattern;

obtaining data, which indicates an output color corresponding to the output dot pattern, by referring to an output density table; and

obtaining the error data by calculating a difference between the data which indicates the output color, and the color-converted image data,

wherein the plurality of three-dimensional tables include three-dimensional tables in correspondence with ~~a color appearance of an image to be printed by the dot pattern~~ the output color.

12. and 13. (cancelled).